

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0155

Wolf management-4.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Baker and Senator(s) Burns

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to wolf management; reclassifying the gray
 2 wolf; providing for management of gray wolves as specified;
 3 modifying penalty for illegally taking a gray wolf;
 4 modifying fees for hunting gray wolves; and providing for
 5 an effective date.

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7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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9 **Section 1.** W.S. 11-6-302(a) (ix) (B) (intro) and
 10 (x) (B) (intro), 23-1-101(a) (viii) (B) (intro) and
 11 (xii) (B) (intro), 23-1-302(a) (xxix), 23-1-304(a),
 12 (b) (intro), (c) and (d), 23-2-101(j) (xliii) (A) and (B),
 13 23-2-104(e), 23-3-102(b) and 23-3-115(c) are amended to
 14 read:

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16 **11-6-302. Definitions.**

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1 (a) As used in this article:

2

3 (ix) "Predatory animal" means:

4

5 (B) Until the date gray wolves are removed
6 from the list of experimental nonessential population,
7 endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming as
8 provided by W.S. 23-1-108, "predatory animal" includes
9 wolves. ~~After that date, "predatory animal" shall include~~
10 ~~any gray wolf not within an area of the state in which the~~
11 ~~gray wolf is:~~

12

13 (x) "Trophy game animal" means:

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15 (B) Gray wolf from and after the date gray
16 wolves are removed from the list of experimental
17 nonessential population, endangered species or threatened
18 species in Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108. ~~÷~~

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20 **23-1-101. Definitions of wildlife.**

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22 (a) As used in this act:

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24 (viii) "Predatory animal" means:

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(B) Until the date gray wolves are removed from the list of experimental nonessential population, endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108, "predatory animal" includes wolves. ~~After that date, "predatory animal" shall include any gray wolf not within an area of the state in which the gray wolf is:~~

(xii) "Trophy game animal" means:

(B) Gray wolf from and after the date gray wolves are removed from the list of experimental nonessential population, endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108. ~~÷~~

23-1-302. Powers and duties.

(a) The commission is directed and empowered:

(xxix) After the date gray wolves are removed from the list of experimental nonessential population, endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108, to ~~classify gray wolves as~~

1 ~~predatory or trophy game animals in accordance with W.S.~~
2 ~~23-1-304, and to~~ regulate the number of gray wolves which
3 may be taken under a license issued under this act.

4
5 **23-1-304. Classification of gray wolves.**

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7 (a) The commission shall ~~determine the classification~~
8 ~~of manage~~ gray wolves as provided in this ~~section act~~. The
9 commission shall manage for fifteen (15) packs of gray
10 wolves in this state. In ~~making this classification~~
11 managing for gray wolves the commission shall rely upon
12 information provided by department personnel and shall
13 consult with the Wyoming animal damage management board
14 created by W.S. 11-6-303 and the director of the Wyoming
15 department of agriculture, and consider any additional
16 information provided by that board and by that director.

17
18 (b) The department shall provide to the commission at
19 least a quarterly monitoring report on the number of gray
20 wolf packs within this state and their general location.
21 ~~Within thirty (30) days of receiving a department report~~
22 ~~the commission shall at a public meeting:~~

23

1 (c) For purposes of this section "pack" ~~means five~~
2 ~~(5) or more gray wolves traveling together. If a group of~~
3 ~~gray wolves consists of more than ten (10) animals known to~~
4 ~~be traveling together, the commission may, at its~~
5 ~~discretion, recognize the number of packs within such a~~
6 ~~group to be equal to the number of reproductively mature~~
7 ~~females bearing young found within that group of wolves~~
8 shall be as defined by commission rule and regulation based
9 upon the commission's determination of the number of wolves
10 required at a specified period of the year to prevent
11 future listing of the gray wolf as an experimental
12 nonessential population, endangered or threatened species.
13

14 (d) The department shall institute and maintain an
15 active program of wolf population monitoring statewide. In
16 all areas of the state, ~~except where otherwise provided,~~
17 any person who ~~harvests~~ takes a wolf shall notify the
18 department where the ~~harvest~~ take occurred within ~~ten (10)~~
19 ~~days~~ the time period required by commission rule and
20 regulation. In adopting rules and regulations requiring
21 notification of the taking of a wolf, the commission shall
22 not require the submission of any parts of the wolf other
23 than its skin and skull. Any information regarding the
24 number or ~~nature~~ type of wolves legally ~~harvested~~ taken

1 within the state of Wyoming shall only be released in its
2 aggregate form and no information of a ~~private~~ or
3 ~~confidential~~ personal nature shall be released without the
4 written consent of the person to whom the information may
5 refer. Information identifying any person legally
6 ~~harvesting~~ taking a wolf within this state is solely for
7 the use of the department or appropriate law enforcement
8 ~~offices~~ agencies and is not a public record for purposes of
9 W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205.

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11 **23-2-101. Fees; restrictions; nonresident application**
12 **fee; nonresident licenses; verification of residency**
13 **required.**

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15 (j) Subject to W.S. 23-2-101(f), the following
16 hunting licenses and tags may be purchased for the fee
17 indicated and subject to the limitations provided:

18
19 (xliv) From and after the date gray wolves are
20 removed from the list of experimental nonessential
21 population, endangered species or threatened species in
22 Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108:

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24 (A) Resident gray wolf license ~~\$15.00~~ \$5.00

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(B) Nonresident gray wolf license ~~\$150.00~~

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\$75.00

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23-2-104. Archery licenses; special seasons;

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prohibition against firearms; equipment.

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(e) When hunting antelope, bighorn sheep, black bear,

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deer, mountain goat or mountain lion the longbow hunter

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must be equipped with a longbow of not less than forty (40)

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pounds draw weight or possessing the ability to cast a

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hunting arrow of four hundred (400) grain weight at least

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one hundred sixty (160) yards. When hunting elk, grizzly

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bear or moose, the longbow hunter must be equipped with a

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longbow of not less than fifty (50) pounds draw weight or

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possessing the ability to cast a hunting arrow of five

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hundred (500) grain weight at least one hundred sixty (160)

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yards. The crossbow hunter must be equipped with a crossbow

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of not less than ninety (90) pounds draw weight which has a

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minimum draw length of fourteen (14) inches (from front of

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bow to back of string in the cocked position), a positive

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safety mechanism, and, except as provided in subsection (f)

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of this section, which must be cocked by hand without the

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aid of leverage-gaining devices. Crossbow bolts must be at

1 least sixteen (16) inches long. The broadhead of arrows or
2 bolts shall be of sharp steel with a minimum cutting width
3 of one (1) inch. The provisions of this subsection
4 relating to the hunting of antelope, bighorn sheep, black
5 bear, deer, mountain goat and mountain lion shall also
6 apply to the hunting of the gray wolf as a trophy game
7 animal. ~~from and after the date gray wolves are removed~~
8 ~~from the list of experimental nonessential population,~~
9 ~~endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming as~~
10 ~~provided by W.S. 23-1-108.~~

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12 **23-3-102. Taking certain game animals without license**
13 **or during a closed season prohibited.**

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15 (b) Any person who takes any bighorn sheep, mountain
16 goat, mountain lion, or grizzly bear ~~or, gray wolf where~~
17 ~~classified as a trophy game animal,~~ without the proper
18 license except as otherwise permitted by this act is guilty
19 of a 4th degree misdemeanor.

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21 **23-3-115. Taking black bear, mountain lion, gray**
22 **wolf, bobcat, weasel, badger, squirrels or muskrat for**
23 **damaging property.**

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1 (c) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section
2 relating to the taking of animals doing damage to private
3 property shall apply to gray wolves from and after the date
4 gray wolves are removed from the list of experimental
5 nonessential population, endangered species or threatened
6 species in Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108. The owner,
7 employee or lessee acting under authority of this ~~section~~
8 subsection shall save and care for the skin and skull,
9 procure a Wyoming game tag for the skin and notify the
10 department of the ~~kill~~taking of a gray wolf ~~within an~~
11 ~~area of the state in which the gray wolf is classified as a~~
12 ~~trophy game animal. The notification shall be made within~~
13 ~~ten (10) days of the kill unless the gray wolf was taken in~~
14 ~~an area where wolves have been classified as trophy game~~
15 ~~animals pursuant to W.S. 23-1-304(b)(i)(A) in which case~~
16 ~~the notification shall be made within seventy two (72)~~
17 ~~hours~~in accordance with W.S. 23-1-304 and rules and
18 regulations promulgated pursuant to that section.

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20 **Section 2.** W.S. 11-6-302(a)(ix)(B)(I) and (II),
21 (x)(B)(I) and (II), 23-1-101(a)(viii)(B)(I) and (II),
22 (xii)(B)(I) and (II), 23-1-304(b)(i) and (ii) and 2003
23 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 115, Section 4(c) and (d) are
24 repealed.

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2 **Section 3.** The legislature hereby reconfirms the
3 purposes and intent stated in 2003 Wyoming Session Laws,
4 Chapter 115, Section 4(a) and (b). The game and fish
5 commission shall manage for gray wolves as provided by this
6 act in accordance with those purposes and stated intent.

7

8 **Section 4.** This act is effective immediately upon
9 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
10 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
11 Constitution.

12

13

(END)